

**FEATURING BEST PRACTICES
OF STATE AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

**Provide Resources
Indigent Care Pharmaceutical Program (ICP)**

**Virginia Department of Health
Alexandria Health Department's Flora K. Casey Health Center -
Pharmacy
implemented this best practice
in 1993**

*Qualifying under the
Best Practices catalogue*

3 Provide Capabilities
31 Manage resources and capabilities
312 Deliver products and services to customers

**Best Practice Summary
(how it works, how you measure it)**

Starting in 1993, the Alexandria Health Department began soliciting free pharmaceuticals for financially disadvantaged clients. Many new drugs had entered the marketplace that potentially could impact patient care in a positive direction. However, these new high cost medicines were out of the reach of the department's available funding. Therefore, something had to be done in order to provide clients with these medications and for the department to continue to remain within budget guidelines. The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufactures of American publish

a directory of available prescription drug assistance programs. The directory lists many available medications free of charge to patients who might otherwise not have access to necessary medicines.

Impact on the Process Organizational Performance (OUTCOMES)

The Alexandria Health Department use of these various programs has grown over the past seven years resulting an overall savings of \$2.9 million. The following reflects the value of the ICP drugs dispensed:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Value of ICP Drugs Dispensed</u>
1992-93	\$ 42,525
1993-94	\$319,304
1994-95	\$353,071
1995-96	\$489,703
1996-97	\$444,722
1997-98	\$527,090
1998-99	<u>\$747,154</u>
	\$2,923,569

Best Practice Qualification

With the cooperation of the pharmaceutical manufactures in providing free medication, and the pharmacy staff taking the time to research, prepare the paperwork, and follow-up on these various programs, the Alexandria Health Department clients have been able to receive the drugs that are needed for their medical conditions. This program has drastically improved the quality of life for their indigent patients.

For Additional Information

Virginia Department of Health
Alexandria Health Department's Flora K. Casey Health Center - Pharmacy
517 North St. Asaph Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Gary Buddie
Pharmacist
(703) 823-7333, Extension 216
gbuddie@vdh.state.va.us

Kathryn Williams
Alexandria Health Department
(703) 838-4400, Extension 283
kwilliams@vdh.state.va.us